

REMARKS

The above-noted amendment of claims 1-16, and addition of new claims 17-19, as well as the submission of a revised Abstract and revisions to the Specification, are respectfully submitted prior to initiation of the prosecution of this application in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The above-noted amendments to the claims and new claims are respectfully submitted in order to more clearly and appropriately claim the subject matter which applicants consider to constitute their inventive contribution. No new matter is included in these amendments. In addition, the revisions to the Abstract and Specification are submitted in order to clarify and correct the Abstract and Specification and to conform them to all of the requirements of U.S. practice. No new matter is included in these amendments.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that these amendments now be entered, and that prosecution on the merits of this application now be initiated. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any objections which he may have.

Application No.: 10/531,235

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-403

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
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